

## Amendment to the Claims

### **1-13. (Cancelled)**

14. (Currently Amended) A nose mask comprising:

an arrangement axle;

a mask portion removably mounted on the arrangement axle, wherein the arrangement axle can be inserted from nares into a nasal vestibule to attach the mask portion to a nasal cavity of a user,

the mask portion including a cellulose sponge and a pair of round-shaped filters arranged on opposite sides of the cellulose sponge, the round-shaped filters being capable of filtering polluted air and collecting dust, and the cellulose sponge being capable of absorbing and buffering liquid; and

a cap and a stopper securing the mask portion to a portion of the arrangement axle by sandwiching the mask portion between the cap and the stopper,

wherein the first and second round shaped filters have a diameter that is larger than an a maximum outer diameter of the cellulose sponge, and

wherein the cap includes structure defining a central passage receiving the arrangement axle, and a first engagement portion engaging an engagement member of the arrangement axle to secure the cap on the arrangement axle, and a second engagement portion engaging an engagement member of the stopper in order to sandwich the filters and the cellulose sponge between the cap and the stopper thereby preventing the mask portion from being disengaged from the arrangement axle by a force applied transversely to a plane direction of the filters.

**15-16. (Cancelled)**

17. (Currently Amended) The nose mask as claimed ~~in claim~~ in claim 14, wherein the structure defining the central passage extends through the round shaped filters and the cellulose sponge.

18. (Previously Presented) The nose mask as claimed in claim 14, wherein the first and second round shaped filters are positioned to contact internal surfaces of a nasal vestibule when the mask portion is inserted therein.

**19-23. (Cancelled)**

24. (New) A nose mask comprising:

an axle;

a first mask portion removably mounted on a first end portion of the axle;

a second mask portion removably mounted on a second end portion of the axle,  
wherein the first and second end portions of the axle can be inserted from nares into a nasal vestibule to attach the first and second mask portions to a nasal cavity of a user,

each of the mask portions includes a cellulose sponge and a pair of disk-shaped filters arranged on opposite sides of the cellulose sponge, the filters being capable of filtering polluted air, and the cellulose sponge being capable of absorbing liquid; and

a first cap and a first stopper securing the first mask portion to the first end portion of

the by sandwiching the mask portion between the first cap and the first stopper,

wherein each of the first and second disk-shaped filters has a diameter that is larger than a maximum outer diameter of the respective cellulose sponge, and

wherein the first cap includes structure defining a central passage receiving the first end portion of the axle, a first engagement portion engaging an engagement member of the axle to secure the first cap on the first end portion of the axle, and a second engagement portion engaging an engagement member of the first stopper in order to sandwich the corresponding filters and the cellulose sponge between the first cap and the first stopper thereby preventing the first mask portion from being disengaged from the axle by a force applied transversely to a plane direction of the filters.

25. (New) The nose mask as claimed in claim 24, wherein the structure defining the central passage extends through the circular disk-shaped filters and the cellulose sponge.

26. (New) The nose mask as claimed in claim 24, wherein the first and second disk-shaped filters are positioned to contact internal surfaces of a nasal vestibule when the mask portion is inserted therein.

27. (New) The nose mask as claimed in claim 24, wherein each of the first and second disk-shaped filters comprises a circular disk.